I have not touched upon the subject of any change in the great breeding haunts of the woodcock in high northern latitudes, from my inability to learn anything satisfactory about the matter. It has been stated indeed that the eggs have been much used in Sweden of late years, but it seems improbable that any change in regions so far remote as the ordinary summer haunts of the woodcock can affect the question of its breeding within the British islands.

# XL.—On the Botany of the Channel Islands. By Charles C. Babington, M.A., F.L.S., F.G.S., &c.\*

HAVING last year had the pleasure of submitting to this Section an account of my botanical observations in the islands of Guernsey and Jersey†, I should not have ventured to occupy the time of this Meeting with anything further on the subject had I not been so fortunate as to make several additions to the Channel Islands Flora during the last few weeks.

I will proceed to mention the names of those plants which had not been noticed in the islands before the present year.

Ranunculus ophioglossifolius. In a very wet marsh in Jersey.

Orchis laxiflora. Common in wet places in Jersey and Guernsey. Linaria pelisseriana. In one place upon a dry hill side, amongst Ulex europæus, in Jersey.

Myriophyllum alterniflorum. In marsh ditches in Guernsey.

Polygala oxyptera. This is probably a variety of P. vulgaris, but has been distinguished by several eminent continental botanists. It is frequent in all the islands, and has been gathered by myself near Liverpool.

Ononis reclinata. This plant is very common in Alderney, but has not been noticed in the other islands. It was found several years since on the coast of Galloway in Scotland, by Dr. Graham.

Potamogeton plantagineus. In damp pits from which peat has been

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Carex punctata. In wet marshes, in Guernsey. This plant has been submitted to the inspection of Dr. Boott, from whom a monograph on this difficult genus is shortly expected, and he has conferred the name\*. It has, I believe, been noticed in several parts of England.

The following additional species have been gathered in these islands, but not in Britain.

Neottia æstivalis, in Jersey.

Sinapis incana, in Jersey. Noticed this summer plentifully in Alderney.

Mercurialis ambigua, in Jersey. This appears to be only a variety of M. annua, but is probably the plant of the younger Linnæus.

Atriplex rosea. Jersey and Guernsey. I believe that this will be found to exist upon the south coast of England.

Arthrolobium ebracteatum, in Guernsey. During the present year I have found this plant in plenty in Alderney.

These five were first gathered by myself; the following had been noticed by other botanists previously to my visit.

Allium sphærocephalon.

Bromus maximus.

Festuca sabulicola.

Brassica Cheiranthus.

Scirpus pungens.

Armeria plantaginea.

Echium violaceum.

Centaurea Isnardi.

Lagurus ovatus.

Juncus capitatus.

The total number of flowering plants and ferns which have been noticed in the islands amounts to above 760, of which 20 have not as yet been gathered in Britain. Alderney and Sark have been less carefully examined than Jersey and Guernsey, as I was not able to devote more than a week to each of them, and very little has been done by other botanists. The number of plants which I observed in Alderney is about 330, and in Sark 252; the little island of Jethon supplied me with 115 species, and an adjoining conical rock, called Crevichon, is inhabited by 22 species, nearly the whole herbage consisting of Silene maritima.

In conclusion I may be allowed to mention that I am about to publish an outline of the Flora of the islands, under the name of 'Primitiæ Floræ Sarnicæ,' and shall be much obliged to any botanist who may favour me with information on the subject.

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St. John's College, Cambridge, Oct. 27, 1838.

## XLI.—Descriptions of British Chalcidites. By Francis Walker, F.L.S.

[Continued from p. 205.]

Sp. 36. Cirr. Cyrrhus, Fem. Cyaneus, antennæ nigræ, pedes cyanei, tarsi fulvi, protibiæ flavæ, alæ limpidæ.

Obscure cyaneus: oculi et ocelli rufi: antennæ nigræ; articulus 1<sup>us</sup> nigro-cyaneus: pedes cyanei; trochanteres fulvi; genua flava; tarsi fulvi, basi flavi, apice fusci; propedum tibiæ flavæ extus fulvo vittatæ, tarsi pallide fusci: alæ limpidæ; squamulæ fuscæ, antice cyaneæ; nervi fusci. (Corp. long. lin. 3/4; alar. lin. 1.)

June, near London.

Fem. Corpus gracillimum, sublineare, nitens, scitissime squameum, parce hirtum: caput transversum, breve, convexum, thorace latius: antennæ graciles, extrorsum crassiores, corporis dimidio longiores; articulus 1<sup>us</sup> gracilis, sublinearis; 2<sup>us</sup> longicyathiformis; 4<sup>us</sup> 3° brevior; 5<sup>us</sup> adhuc brevior; clava fusiformis, acuminata, articulo 5° plus dimidio longior: thorax longiovatus, convexus: prothorax brevissimus, supra vix conspicuus: mesothoracis scutum latitudine longius; parapsidum suturæ bene determinatæ; scutellum breviconicum, metathorax transversus, mediocris: petiolus brevissimus: abdomen longi-fusiforme, thorace multo longius, supra planum, subtus carinatum, apice acuminatum: oviductus exertus, brevis: pedes graciles: alis nervus ulnaris humerali longior, radialis vix ullus, cubitalis sat longus.

Sp. 37. Cirr. Mycerinus, Fem. Cupreus viridi-varius, antennæ fuscæ, pedes fulvi; alæ limpidæ.

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